

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed December 7, 2004, the Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 22, and 36 to further define the invention as including an insitu foamed elastomer disposed throughout the core.

Support for this amendment may be found in the original application on page 8, beginning at line 19 where it is stated, "the foaming elastomer 72 may be activated by a catalyst or re-heat after a backing 74 is applied." Accordingly, no new matter has been introduced by the present amendment.

Clearly, none of the references relied on by the Examiner anticipate or in combination make the present invention as, currently claimed, obvious.

The Examiner has remarked that the plastic and polyurethane disclosed in Wolf, et al. and Voelker are foamable customers. However, they are not insitu foamed elastomers, as presently claimed.

There is no teaching, suggestion, or any hint of the references cited by the Examiner of a core having an insitu formed elastomer disposed throughout the core. Accordingly, in view of the amendment to the claims, it is submitted that the claims now in the application define patentable subject matter not anticipated by the art of record and not obvious to one skilled in this field who is aware of the references of record. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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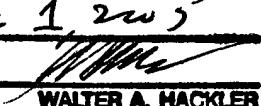
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